Dear Member,

Membership Proposal

After the highs of this summer’s Olympics and Paralympic Games, the focus is now on how we capitalise on the enthusiasm and interest in volleyball. It is time to take stock on how we can do more for our members and new participants coming into the sport.

The way we serve our members and the current club affiliation system has a number of major shortcomings. We have very few details about our individual participants and cannot take into account their needs when developing and offering benefits and services. Principally, the system does not allow us to communicate with participants in the way we need.

Over the last 12 months we have been reviewing and consulting across the sport and believe the time is now right to change how we serve and administer membership. This issue has been ongoing for many years but it has become more important to address for the benefit of everyone.

We are writing to you to announce that we will be calling an EGM on the 10th November to change how we operate membership, in an effort to greatly improve services and to help with the development of the sport in all its forms. Volleyball England is putting forward a special resolution to its Articles of Association to enable the organisation to move to a system of Individual Registration from the beginning of the 2013/14 season.

In the new proposal, participants would register individually with Volleyball England and will be offered a wide package of membership benefits which we aim to increase and improve upon in the future. The new arrangements will be simpler to administer, offer greater flexibility to the individual, and ensure that we can offer a consistent, high class membership benefits package and service to all volleyball participants. A small fee will be required when registering.

At the same time, the new proposal would help to ensure that participants are aware of the various opportunities available to them including insurance, discounts, funding, event information, tickets, bespoke training sessions and access to conferences/seminars. It would also allow Volleyball England to fully support the activities that we believe are important for the future success of the sport post the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The new system will be of huge benefit to our members and our hope is that members will feel not only that they get something from being a volleyball participant, but also that they are actively supporting the development of volleyball for the future.

To inform this discussion we have put together a ‘YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED’ sheet which answers some specific questions and provides additional information on the proposal.

Yours Faithfully

Rob Harding
Head of Marketing and Communications